

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE
ON
TORT REFORM**

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

9:30 a.m.

Room 519, House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Tort Reform was called to order by the Chair, Representative Elsenheimer.

Members present: Representatives Elsenheimer, Kahn, Huizenga, Hune, Adamini, Bieda.

Members absent/excused: Representatives Gaffney, McConico.

Chairman Elsenheimer invited the following individual to testify before the committee:

Sherman “Tiger” Joyce, President of the American Tort Reform Association (ATRA).

Mr. Joyce provided an overview of his organization. Mr. Joyce then spoke about how Michigan has been a leader in the national legal reform movement; how legal reform boosts the economy and enhances access to health care; how Michigan courts have respected the authority of the Legislature to make policy in the civil justice arena; and how to avoid the distinction of being a “Judicial Hellhole”.

Following his testimony, Mr. Joyce took questions from committee members.

Representative Kahn moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 28, 2006. Representative Adamini supported the motion. There being no objection the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Representative Hune moved to excuse the absence of Representatives Gaffney and McConico. Representative Bieda supported the motion. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Representative Kevin Elsenheimer, Chair_____

Doug Simon, Committee Clerk
House Tort Reform Committee, (517) 373-0015